Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: JA, PFOR, OGOV

SUBJECT: FOREIGN OFFICE SEEKS INCREASED BUDGET

SUMMARY: CONTINUING SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF ITS OPERATIONS OVER RECENT YEARS, FONOFF HAS SOUGHT FUNDS FOR STAFF INCREASE OF OVER TEN PERCENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF SIX NEW POSTS ABROAD IN ITS FY 1977 BUDGET REQUEST. END SUMMARY.

- 1. FONOFF AUG 31 FORMALLY SUBMITTED TO MOF FY 1977
 BUDGET REQUEST OF YEN 178,967 MILLION (APPROX DOLS 617
 MILLION), UP 13.5 PERCENT OVER CURRENT APPROPRIATION.
 BUDGET PROPOSAL NOW ENTERS LENGTHY ROUND OF INTERMINISTERIAL NEGOTIATIONS.
- 2. UNDER PROPOSED BUDGET, FONOFF STAFF WOULD BE INCREASED BY 355 TO TOTAL OF 3,494. FOLLOWING SIMILAR INCREASES IN BOTH FY 75 AND FY 76, ADDITIONAL NEW STAFF WOULD REPRESENT OVER 25 PERCENT EXPANSION IN THREE-YEAR PERIOD.
- 3. BUDGET REQUEST ALSO INCLUDES FUNDS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW EMBASSIES IN UGANDA AND MOZAMBIQUE AND CONSULATES GENERAL IN SAIGON/HO CHI MINH CITY, FRANKFURT, PENANG AND ENCARNACION (PARAGUAY). LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 4. IN FIELD OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FONOFF HAS REQUESTED APPROXIMATELY DOLS66 MILLION FOR BILATERAL FINANCIAL COOPERATION ON GRANT BASIS AND APPROXIMATELY DOLS154 MILLION FOR EXPANSION OF JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY OPERATIONS. REQUESTS REPRESENT INCREASES OF ALMOST 15 AND 17 PERCENT RESPECTIVELY OVER CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS. FONOFF HAS ALSO SOUGHT INCREASED FUNDS FOR PUBLIC-RELATIONS ACTIVITIES BOTH OVERSEAS AND WITHIN JAPAN.
- 5. COMMENT: EVENTS OF RECENT YEARS, PARTICULARLY OIL EMBARGO OF 1973, HAVE SPURRED GOJ TO INCREASE BOTH SIZE AND QUALITY OF JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION OVERSEAS, ESPECIALLY IN MIDEAST AND THIRD WORLD. PROPOSED NEW DIPLOMATIC POSTS, PARTICULARLY MAPUTO AND SAIGON, CONSTITUTE FONOFF'S "WISH-LIST"--NEGOTIATIONS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF MAPUTO EMBASSY HAVE LONG BEEN STALLED AND FONOFF SE ASIA DEPDIVDIR REPORTS NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE WITH VIETNAMESE REGARDING CONSULATE GENERAL IN SAIGON. HE DESCRIBED INCLUSION OF SAIGON IN NEW BUDGET AS "STATEMENT OF GOJ INTENTION MADE FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL PURPOSES."
- 6. AS SIDE NOTE ON PERSONNEL INCREASES, TOKYO PRESS RECENTLY REPORTED FONOFF HAS DE-EMPHASIZED ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS IN FOREIGN SERVICE ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS. ASAHI EDITORIAL NOTED NEED FOR "ROUGH, TOUGH MEN" CAPABLE OF ENDURING ADVERSE CONDITIONS OF SOME THIRD-WORLD POSTS TO ACT AS DIPLOMATS AND SUGGESTED RECRUITMENT OF PHYSICALLY-CONDITIONED "SPORTSMEN" INTO FONOFF. END COMMENT. SOESMITH

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